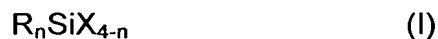


CLAIMS

1. A consolidation agent for moulded articles and geological formations from porous or particulate materials, containing a hydrolysate or precondensate of
(a) at least one organosilane of the general formula (I)



in which the radicals R are identical or different and are not hydrolytically removable groups, the radicals X are identical or different and are hydrolytically removable groups or hydroxyl groups, and n is 1, 2 or 3, and optionally

- (b) at least one hydrolyzable silane of the general formula (II)



in which the radicals X have the meaning defined above.

2. The consolidation agent according to claim 1, containing a hydrolysate or precondensate of (a1) an alkylsilane, (a2) an arylsilane and (b) an orthosilicic ester.
3. The consolidation agent according to claim 1 or 2, characterized in that the hydrolysate or precondensate is prepared in the presence of a metal compound of the general formula (III)



in which M is a metal from main groups I to VIII or subgroups II to VIII of the Periodic Table of the Elements, X is defined as in formula (I), wherein two groups X may be replaced by an oxo group, and a corresponds to the valence of the element.

4. The consolidation agent according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is prepared according to the sol-gel process with a substoichiometric amount of water based on the hydrolyzable groups present.
5. The consolidation agent according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is activated by the addition of an amount of water before application.
6. The consolidation agent according to any of the preceding claims, characterized in that it is present in the form of a solution or emulsion.
7. A process for preparing consolidated moulded articles, characterized in that a consolidation agent according to any of claims 1 to 6 is mixed with a porous or particulate material to be consolidated or the material to be consolidated is coated with the consolidation agent and the consolidation agent is cured.
8. A consolidated moulded article obtainable according to the process of claim 7.
9. A process for consolidating porous or particulate geological formations, characterized in that a consolidation agent according to any of claims 1 to 6 is infiltrated or injected into the geological formation and the consolidation agent is cured.
10. A process for consolidating geological formations, characterized in that consolidated moulded articles according to claim 8 are introduced into channels within the geological formation.